

WINNERS RECEIVE PRIZES

Competition of figure skaters from 14 countries for the 'Moscow News' Prize

(Continued from page 1)

The five days of the competition were held, in the main, in an exciting struggle. Talking of the struggle, we should first of all emphasize the contention of two dancing duets: Bestemyanova and Bukin, and Klimova and Ponomarenko. The former are well known, the latter made a name for themselves for the first time at the major events of the past season. In the closing day of the dancing competition they showed a different approach to the free dance. While the former made it one whole (like, for instance, did Britons Torvill and Dean), the latter chose a different way, making a dance of four parts. We must give credit to the rivals. Both pairs put their techniques, soul and heart into the performance — and even something simply inexplicable. Judging by the reaction of the audience (the Palace of Sport was packed) for many the decision of the judges to give victory to the young duet was not convincing, even though it does not lower the excellent merits of Klimova and Ponomarenko. But you cannot argue with judges.

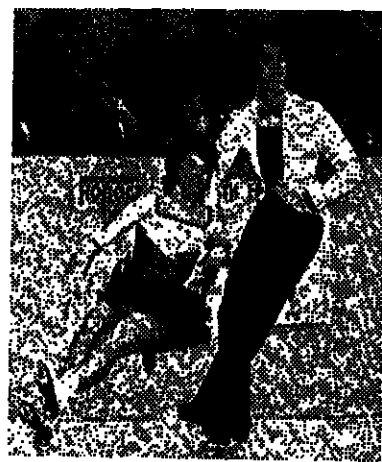
There was again an excellent showing by Alexander Fadeyev, who took the first place in his stride. Second-placed Vladimir Kotin showed fine elegance and mastery. A recent 1983 junior world finalist Viktor Potrenko, 15, from Odessa, did well, too. His free programme, both its composition and performance, deserve scrutiny. The main thing is that he did not get confused before experienced fighters but managed to be among the top three.

Leningrad pair—Larisa Seleznyova and Oleg Makarov—this time took the pairs. The work of coaches and spouses Tanara and Igor Muskhin is fairly noticeable in world sport. Thus, third finalist Yelena Bechko and Valery Kornylenko also represent Leningrad in Soviet sport. Vazonika Fesina and Merat Akbarov came second, and they could hardly do better at the given state of preparation. They were let down by technical inaccuracies, specifically the male partner's fall.

Kira Ivanova is again on the podium with her fourth "Crystal Skate". A meritorious consist-



Kira Ivanova (USSR).



Natalya Bestemyanova and Andrei Bukin (USSR).



Peggy Seidel-Ralf Solfert (GDR).



Brunilde Bianchi-Walter Rizzo (Italy).



Muscovite Yelena Vodorenova quits big-time sport.



Ralph Bughart (Austria).

onco. She really was the strongest. The only one who could rival her was Natalya Lebedeva. And she came second ultimately. Anna Kondrashova was third. Generally speaking, compared with the other events women's singles were below par. Perhaps it is just the start of the season. Let us not judge them severely. The season is a long one, ahead are many responsible events, and final conclusions will be drawn on the strength of them. Muscovites say good-bye to the figure skaters until next year when the jubilee, 20th "Moscow News" Prize contest will be held.



Muscovite Yelena Vodorenova quits big-time sport.

from your leaders, particularly from Bestemyanova and Bukin, Klimova and Ponomarenko. It is my second appearance in this competition, and I hope to come here again next year, said the Italian skater, Andrea Savognano. I like the atmosphere of friendship in which the contests are held, and I am attracted by the opportunity of seeing many excellent figure skaters and meeting friends. It is wonderful that figure-skating federations of Italy and the Soviet Union have established strong contacts. In Italy, figure skating is not so popular, so each visit by Soviet skaters to my country is important for us. Very useful have been the training sessions and consultations which were given in Italy by such leading coaches as Tatyana Tarasova and Yelena Chalkovskaya.

This is my first competition in Moscow, and I am taking home with me the warmest feelings about the stay in your capital, the hospitality of Muscovites, and the colourful festival of figure skating, said Japanese figure skater, Kayo Iwaseki. I had no doubts about Kira Ivanova's victory, yet she met with a most stubborn rivalry from the runner-up, Natalya Lebedeva, who is well known to specialists. I think that Lebedeva has very good prospects for this season. Most of all I was impressed by the performance put in by Alexander Fadeyev and the competition among the dancing pairs. I would like very much to come here again next year for the 20th "Moscow News" Prize Competition.

The "Moscow News" Prize competitions were covered by our special correspondents Alexander BUTSENIN and Yevgeny LANFANG photos by Andrei KNYAZEV.

Peace Race-85 to start in Moscow

The Executive Committee and the International Amateur Cycling Federation Congress met in Munich to wholeheartedly support a proposal by the USSR, GDR, Polish and Czechoslovak cycling federations on holding the first three stages of the 1985 Race in Moscow to mark the 40th anniversary of victory over Nazism.

The association of organizers of international events has selected the world's best cyclist for the past year. The title prize was awarded to noted Czechoslovak road racer, Jiri Slezak. Soviet cyclist Sergei Subbotchenkov, Ivan Mikhchenko and Sergei Kopylov also won the prize in various years.

DECISIONS OF IOC SESSION

A session of the International Olympic Committee was held in Lausanne which was devoted to discuss difficulties arisen in recent years in the Olympic movement.

Confirming the loyalty to its principles written into the Olympic Charter, the participants recognized that national Olympic committees will retain the right to take decisions on participation in the Games in a way consistent with the Charter. The participants on taking sanctions against the committees refusing to accept the Charter's principles and to bring out the plans for the country's economic and social development.

SPORTSMEN LOSE IN THE END

Several US firms and representatives of various organs of local power have started local action against the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee on charges of fraud and financial manipulations, the local press reports. A nasty example, as they say, is infectious. Following the organizing committee, a financial adventure was undertaken, too, by the US National Olympic Committee. The report was reported at the annual conference of the US Athletic Congress in San Diego.

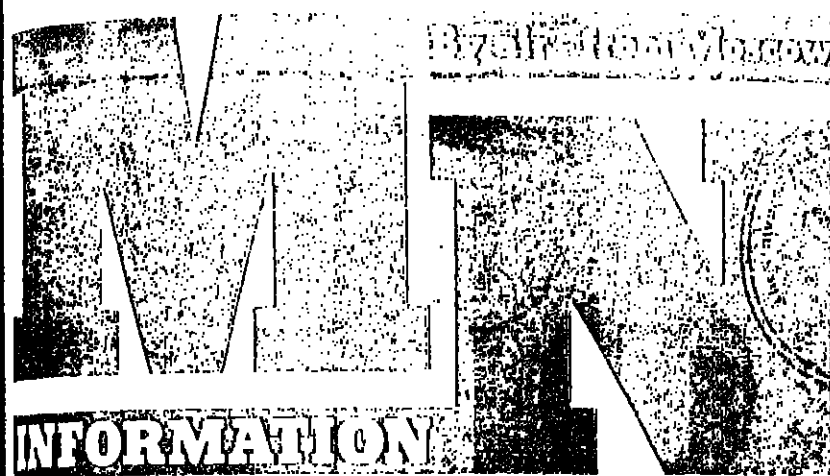
During a meeting with journalists it was stressed the National Olympic Committee got a large sum of money from the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee in the form of deductions from profits of American and international sports companies, which made such profits money was allegedly meant for the development of sport in the country but the NOC leadership decided to put the money in the bank at high interest.



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Soviet consumer co-operators maintain working links with their counterparts in 50 countries

The 11th Congress of representatives of the USSR's consumer co-operators, an economic and social organization with membership of over 60 million shareholders, was recently held in Moscow. In its message to the congress the USSR Central Committee stressed that consumers' cooperation is an important part to play in the country's economic and social development.

The sales network of consumer co-operators accounts for a quarter of the entire retail trade of the USSR. It is daily taking part in the solution of all the consumers' economic problems, in electing the leading bodies, periodically listening to their reports on the work of their co-operators, and in electing shareholders pick up their shares. In the USSR, consumer co-operators have the right to nominate candidates to Soviet state at all levels, to take part in discussing and making key political, economic and social problems.

The congress also discussed international activity of Soviet co-operators — active fighting for peace and mutual understanding. Today they maintain relations with 170 organizations and firms of 50 countries and make a major contribution to the work of the International Cooperative Alliance.

Soviet proposal to Japan

Days. The Soviet-Japanese joint Japanese-Soviet committees for economic cooperation have held their 9th joint meeting. Their participants expressed views on the state of the prospects for the development of trade and economic relations between the two countries.

In their communiqué, the delegates pointed out that the economic and social opportunities at the disposal of both the USSR and Japan, the mutually beneficial structures of their economies, and their geographic proximity create favourable conditions for further development of trade and economic relations. The participants of the meeting confirmed their intention to expand these relations on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Working to make bilateral relations more stable, the Soviet delegates proposed that an agreement be reached between the Soviet and Japanese governments on the principles of economic cooperation and a long-term programme for this cooperation be created.

Round the Soviet Union

● THE EXPANSES OF THREE OCEANS — THE ATLANTIC, INDIAN AND THE PACIFIC — WILL BE OVERCOME BY A NEW SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SHIP, "ACADEMICIAN LAVRENTYEV", WHICH HAS EMBARKED ON A JOURNEY FROM RIGA (A BALTIC CITY). The scientists on board will undertake hydrological, hydrophysical and other observations. Together with them is a group of specialists from Finland who jointly with their Soviet colleagues, will carry out tests on

deep underwater apparatuses and instruments manufactured in that country. The scientific journey will conclude in Vladivostok next April.

● A NEW NAME, IOSHKAROLA, HAS APPEARED ON THE MAP OF THE STARRY SKIES. The name of the capital of the Mari Autonomous Republic (within the Russian Federation) has been given to a minor planet of the Solar System which until now had the ordinal number, 2910. The decision was taken by the International Planetary Center in Cambridge, USA, on the suggestion of Soviet scientists. This name was approved in connection with the 400th anniversary of the city.



The people of Nicaragua now live in full combat readiness. The Government of National Reconstruction has taken emergency measures in the face of the threat of US armed aggression. A detachment of patriots. ● A soldier at a radio communication session.

Order of Lenin for Academy of Medical Sciences

At a ceremony in the Hall of Columns of the Trade Unions House (Moscow) the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences (USSR AMS) was presented with the Order of Lenin. The Academy won this high award for its contribution to the advancement of medical sciences and public education. The audience was addressed by Gaidar Aliev, who, on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers congratulated the members of the Academy and all Soviet medical workers. Among other things he said:

The USSR Academy of Sciences, which was set up in 1944, when the salvos of the Great Patriotic War were still rumbling, has over a historically short period traversed a long road to become one of the most

powerful centres of medical thought in the world. The Order of Lenin conferred on the Academy is a symbol of nationwide recognition of its efforts and scientific authority.

At all stages in the development of the Soviet society, medical scientists have been keeping pace with the times. Carrying out topical fundamental research, and giving ready response to practical health care they have enriched and glorified the Soviet science with new discoveries. They have also given birth to a completely new branch of medical science — space medicine.

Dwelling on the peculiarities of the present stage in the development of medical science, the speaker made special mention of the setting up of a basically new type of medical aid in the form of specialized

medical services and undoubted the scope of the Academy's activities which have embraced the entire country.

The situation in the world today, noted G. Aliev, urgently demands the active contribution by all progressive, democratic and peace forces to the cause of preventing the threat of war and maintaining peace and security of nations. In the forefront of public anti-war activities are progressive medical figures, members of the "International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War".

He said that Exponet organizes up to 200 large and small exhibitions annually.

MOSCOW SIGNS



Winter has come to Moscow.

NATO reiterates belief in arms race

Brussels. Undisguised appeals for further acceleration of the arms race were made at the just ended NATO Council session here, attended by Foreign Ministers of member-countries of this aggressive bloc.

According to a communiqué issued at the end of the session, deployment of the American first-strike nuclear missiles — Pershing-2s and cruise missiles — will go on as planned. The Greek and Danish delegates expressed their reservations on this statement in the document.

FOR A NUCLEAR-FREE EUROPE

Athens. At an international conference for a nuclear-free Europe in the Greek capital were discussed the topical questions of disarmament and security on the continent and on the planet as a whole.

The three working groups, with representatives from nearly thirty European countries and the United States and Canada taking part, were discussing urgent issues including the state of the prospects for the improvement of the political situation.

The winter NATO session, which concludes the "marathon" meetings of the leading organs of the alliance show that, hiding behind demagogic statements on the desire to improve East-West relations, NATO strategists intend to add new twists to the arms race and to produce new types of conventional and nuclear weapons with the aim of achieving a military superiority over the Warsaw Treaty organization.

The delegates and peaceful co-existence on the planet and in view of the deployment of new nuclear missiles, and also the future for a nuclear-free Europe, and trust and security on the continent. The work of the conference has shown that the overwhelming majority of the delegates in Athens realize full well that the nuclear threat emanates from the United States and NATO giving up détente and declaring a "crusade" against socialism.

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USA AND ISRAEL ARE AGAINST

New York. A convocation of an international conference on the Middle East will facilitate a comprehensive settlement of the situation in the region. This has again been confirmed by the delegates attending the 39th session of the UN General Assembly when they adopted four resolutions on all the aspects of the Palestinian issue.

The UN General Assembly has called on all the governments to take additional constructive efforts for its immediate convocation. The resolutions express conviction that the Palestinian issue lies at the heart of the Middle East problem, and they stress that the settlement of the situation in the region is impossible without a

complete realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, and without an immediate, unconditional and complete withdrawal of Israel from all the Arab territories it occupies.

The idea of holding an international conference on the Middle East with participation of all the interested parties has been supported by most UN members. Only the United States and Israel have refused to take part. Despite the express will of the international community they have voted against all the resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly as showing the roads for a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the Middle East.

COUP IN MAURITANIA

Paris. Franco-Press-TASS. A military coup took place in Mauritania. An official communiqué broadcast by radio Nouakchott says that the Military Committee for National Salvation remains the country's top authority. The chairman is now chief of the general staff of the Army, former Prime Minister, Colonel Mawrya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya. The communiqué stresses that the armed forces replaced the Committee leadership in line with the highest interests of the state and the people of Mauritania. According to the communiqué this was caused by the

need for restoring respect for state institutions and achievement of goals of the movement of the 10th of July 1978, when the military first came to power. In 1978 they proclaimed as their goal salvation of country from economic dislocation and dismemberment and preservation of national unity. The purpose of the current changes, the communiqué stresses, is to prevent the strengthening of personal power to the detriment of public interests, as well as to carry out the obligation by the Committee to the people.

Show of force in the Mediterranean

Tel Aviv. It was officially announced that Israel and the USA have begun joint naval games in the Mediterranean. Taking part in them is the "Eisenhower" aircraft carrier, the battleship "Mississippi" as well as other US and Israeli warships. The games will last a week. Radio Tel Aviv reports that the games are an implementation of the agreement on "strategic cooperation" between the USA and Israel.

The new show of force by

Washington and Tel Aviv comes at a time when Lebanese-Israeli talks on the withdrawal of the occupation forces from Lebanon are in progress and when Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy has again come to the region on the so-called mediation diplomatic mission. The armada of American-Israeli warships off the Lebanese shores is an illustration of American-Israeli diplomacy, a diplomacy of gunboats and arm-twisting.



The face of the free world.

Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

Appeal to the Reagan administration

Washington. An appeal to the Reagan administration to observe the agreements existing between the Soviet Union and the United States in the field of arms control has been made by a group of prominent American Senators.

A letter to President Reagan signed by two Republicans, John H. Chafee and John Heinz, and by two Democrats, Patrick Leahy and Dale Bumpers, stresses that the commitment to refrain from violating the existing agreements could create a positive atmosphere for talks with the Soviet Union.

Addressing members of the Arms Control Association the influential Democratic Senator Edward Kennedy spoke in favour of an immediate ratification by the Congress of the treaties signed by the United States on

limiting the underground tests of nuclear weapons and on underground explosions for peaceful purposes. Besides, the administration must confirm the tremendous importance that should be attached to the preservation of the existing agreements which form part of an invisible network of the present basis for arms control, he said. I am seriously worried by the possibility that the world's armaments race could be undermined. The "star wars" programme of the present administration presents a serious threat to the Treaty.

The former director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency Paul C. Warnke describes the forthcoming talks in Geneva as a unique opportunity for the Reagan administration.

SPAIN AND NATO

Madrid. In an interview to the Catalan television, the Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez attempted to justify the decision taken by the Socialist cabinet who, despite their election programme, voted for Spain's continuing membership of NATO. He said that Spain's present status within NATO would not in the least limit the Spanish foreign policy opportunities.

The first national assembly has been held of the committee for a referendum on Spain's membership of NATO. The committee was set up in 1984. Its members are representatives of different political and public organizations.

The participants of the assembly have sent a letter to the 30th congress of the ruling Spanish Socialist Workers' Party in which they say that the hopes of the Spaniards who voted for the Socialists in the 1982 general election will be frustrated if the referendum does not take place or if the population will be presented with a choice between different forms of integration with NATO.

Cheddi Jagan castigates hegemonistic policy of Washington

Havana. General Secretary of the People's Progressive Party (PPP) of Guyana Cheddi Jagan now on a visit here sharply condemned the hegemonistic policy of Washington in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The PPP, he told the Press 14, has a news agency, together with all progressive forces of the world, emphatically supports the Sandinista revolution and the just struggle of the patriots in El Salvador against the puppet pro-American regime. It also rejects the widely advertised by the West "Caribbean initiative" of Reagan whose only goal is continued US economic and military-political expansion in this region.

Cheddi Jagan favoured the earliest turning of the Caribbean into a zone of peace and urged all advocates of this idea to step up their struggle against the aggressive militarist line of American imperialism and its interference in the affairs of the region.

WOJCIECH JARUZELSKI: SANCTIONS CAUSE MISTRUST

Warsaw. Wojciech Jaruzelski has received Klaus Kinkel, German, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe who is on a visit to Poland.

During their meeting, the Polish leader condemned the policy of economic sanctions pursued by the United States and some other NATO countries against Poland. Such a policy is an obstacle to European cooperation, and puts into question the trust towards Western partners in East-West economic relations.

W. Jaruzelski further said that Poland, which is relying on its own efforts and also on the international assistance from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, is stabilizing its economy, and is seeking to restore its position in international economic relations.

MEXICO INDIGNANT AT CONDUCT OF AMERICAN AMBASSADOR

Mexico City. Deputies to the National Congress have demanded a special inquiry into the illegal actions in Mexico of US ambassador John G. Gavin. Representatives of four leading political parties including the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party stressed that for many years now the American embassy has been crudely interfering in the internal affairs of Mexico in nearly every public case to lavishly give "advice" and teaches them how they should behave in the internal arena and inside the country. Crudely violating elementary diplomatic rules, Gavin has the political line of the Mexican Government, meets with the local right and ultra-right circles to coordinate their actions. Not long ago, press reports say, he met leaders of the extreme right National Action Party in the state of Colima and secured them the USA support them in the 1985 elections.

The ambassador's conduct, said Candido Diaz stressed, reflected in the best way the unbecoming conduct of the Reagan administration towards Latin American states.

Courageous position of the judge

Kiel. The Bundeswehr is not an army which, as it is put in the Constitution, fulfils defence tasks. It is involved in the US military policies which in no way makes West Germany more secure. These words have been uttered by Paul Jagan, a judge from Frankfurt am Main, who has refused to serve progressively minded judges behind bars on instructions from the authorities. I do not intend to deprive of freedom the young people who refuse to serve in the Bundeswehr and who will increase the threat of war, he declared.

The courageous judge has won public support.

Military preparations on the Faeroes

Copenhagen. The military in the United States and NATO has devised a plan for modernization of the American electronic surveillance centre on the islands, Denmark, to meet NATO requirements. The plan has been admitted by Danish Defence Minister Hans Engell. Answering a question from left-wing parties in parliament, he pointed out that Denmark's participation in joint NATO projects envisages spending on the construction of receiving equipment on the Faeroes.

NUCLEAR WAR ADVENTURISTS CAUGHT

Washington. Another scandal caused by high government officials in Washington and mismanagement of the taxpayer's money has broken out here. The culprit is the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The department, created six years ago, has already won notoriety for drawing up crazy plans for "survival" in nuclear war and designing and building "shelters" for "refugees". It turned out that its heads were only adventurers of nuclear war but also fraudulent managers. A House subcommittee has charged this department with "swindle and favouritism". "The Washington Post" points out.

It turned out, among other things, that the Agency head gave a contract worth several million dollars to a long-time friend, with whom he had studied at a US Army college some time in the past. This contract was in fact fictitious, for the work had already been done by another firm.

Neither the Agency chief nor other Agency heads showed up at the House subcommittee to hear the case of their mismanagement and thus face charges of contempt of Congress. Yet the swindlers have already enough backers as it is.



In the picture from the newspaper "La Cronica" police are rounding up in the early hours the homeless children who spend the night in the streets of the Peruvian capital, Lima. Nearly forty million children in Latin American countries have no roof over their heads. Their "homes" are the sidewalks and streets. According to data released by the Panamerican Health Organization, every year at least one million children die in Peru, infant mortality is 86 children per every one thousand.

Discussion on Italian television

Rome. The mendacious, contradictory and unconvincing character of the evidence given by the Turkish terrorist Agca about the involvement of Bulgarian citizens in the attempt on the head of the Roman Catholic Church Pope John Paul II in May 1981 have been exposed once again in the course of a discussion organized by the Italian television on this issue. It was attended by journalists from Italy, Turkey and also by the chief director of the Bulgarian News Agency B. Traikov.

The investigation which has practically been concluded in Italy, has actually confirmed the innocence of the Bulgarian citizens, stressed B. Traikov during the discussion. The materials of the investigation contain not a single shred of direct evidence to prove their involvement in the attempt on the Pope's life. Agca's testimony is a pack of falsehoods and lies he had been prompted to say from the outside. Some forces have tried to use the Turkish terrorist in order to launch an unprecedented anti-socialist campaign, said the Bulgarian director. Organizers and instigators of the plot against the Pope should be sought among those who are interested in undermining the process of détente, and in the aggravation of East-West relations, stressed B. Traikov.

Science and technology

'DOLPHIN-SHIP'

Experts of the Tokyo Institute of Technology have completed tests of the prototype of the so-called "dolphin ship", developed by them. They believe that such ships have a great future. In the model, instead of screws, the engine is set in motion by a device resembling the caudal fin of a dolphin and "imitating" its vibrations. According to researchers such a ship will be characterized with high speed and simultaneously reduce fuel consumption by 30 per cent.

ANDEAN SATELLITE

Condor will be the name of the first satellite which the countries of the Andean Group (an economic integration grouping consisting of Bolivia, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador) intend to design and launch into orbit in 1990.

In his opinion Condor will help provide hundreds of rural populated areas with telephone, telegraph and telex communication and connect them to the TV network.

OF INTEREST

Lenses for improving looks

Cosmetics works wonders. Brackets turn into blondes, blonde into brunettes, various creams and lipsticks change women of fashion beyond recognition.

And, it despite all this, you have dull and vacant looks, no shine in your eyes. But it turns out that before it is accomplished. Cosmetic surgery (five colours are now on sale in France) make it possible to change expression, unrecog-

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

AGAIN ABOUT TRADE

The recent talks of K. Chernenko with A. Hammar, the outstanding American industrialist and public figure, and also of N. Tikhonov and M. Gorbachov with the Co-Chairman of the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council D. Andreeva have served as a cause for meditations for the Soviet journalist V. Kobayashi whose article has been published in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA.

Among other things the author writes: Taking place in the ruling class of the United States is a sharp conflict, and the struggle of both opinions and interests. It is very difficult to classify the participants of this struggle. However, I dare to assert, stresses the author, that those representatives of the American administration who oppose setting up normal trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union, in fact, not feigns of advanced technologies to the Soviet Union, but these relations themselves. In combination with an honest political dialogue, a broad Soviet-American trade which objectively has tremendous prospects and which is equally advantageous for both sides, an active scientific and technological exchange would inevitably lead to disintegration of the nuclear missile wishful thinking. They would lead to the creation of an atmosphere in which, for example, such an idea as the plan for "star wars" would look idiotic.

NEW VERSION OF NATO BLITZKRIEG

NATO is escalating its so-called conventional arms race, G. Vorontsov writes in IZVESTIA. Agreement on this was reached during the talks in Washington between the US President Reagan and West German Chancellor Kohl.

The new round of non-nuclear arms race is linked up with the implementation of the Rogers Plan, which was approved a month ago by the NATO military planning committee, notes the author.

The plan provides for the utilization of supermodern systems of weapons with big range, hitting accuracy and mobility, capable of striking at targets far in the enemy rear. Thus, traditional hostilities on the front line are supplemented by a strike at the second echelon, which, according to B. Rogoz, effectively supplements each other within the framework of NATO conception.

The adoption of the Rogers Plan clearly exposed the aggressive nature of the North Atlantic bloc and its militaristic essence. The decision to transfer the stress to "defence" from the "enemy" deep in its territory reveals the plans of NATO bases, aimed at preparing for a war, violating the balance of forces, that has shaped in Europe and achieving unilateral advantages, writes the author in conclusion.

USA-SOUTH AFRICA: 'CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION'

From the first days in office the Reagan administration has been pursuing a policy of all-round rapprochement with South Africa, writes I. Tsushin in PRAVDA. This policy, which has become known as "constructive cooperation", practically embraces all spheres of bilateral relations with Pretoria, including the military field.

Increasing the war potential of the South African regime, stresses the author, the USA proceeds from its own strategic interests. It regards South Africa as a military springboard in Africa, a stronghold of imperialism for struggle against the progressive forces of the region. Washington would like to establish its hegemony on the continent with the help of Pretoria.

At a recent press conference President Reagan justified cooperation with South Africa by alleging that it leads to positive shifts in the home and foreign policies of Pretoria, notes the author.

Facts show the reverse. South Africa continues the occupation of Namibia and some districts of Angola, is trying to destabilize neighbouring states through counter-revolutionary groups. Repressive intensity inside the country, the horrors of apartheid continue.

FRIENDSHIP IN ACTION

The article of L. Teplovsky, published in EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA, deals with the 6th anniversary of the Treaty on Friendship, Good Neighbourly Relations and Cooperation Between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

All in all, more than 100 economic projects have been built or are under construction with Soviet assistance. Soviet-Afghan cooperation projects produce about 10 per cent of industrial output in the state sector of Afghanistan.

Economic and technical cooperation with the USSR is of great importance for Afghanistan especially now that US-led imperialism is waging an undeclared war against Afghanistan, that many Western countries have stopped a boycott against the republic and thereby aroused serious economic difficulties.

ably. If you suffer from myopia, the lenses are made to match eyesight. As the advertisement assures, lustreless eyes with new lenses sparkle with lively expression.

Aggressive magpies

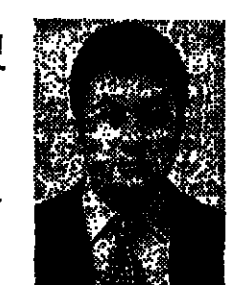
With the onset of spring in the southern hemisphere, birds produce their offspring, magpies become as aggressive that they attack people, in attempt to drive them away from their nests. According to a conclusion made by ornithologists, this conduct of birds is observed only in cities and their outskirts. Magpies in these places are capable

2,500-year-old ritual murder

Criminal police in Britain recently investigated an unusual case. At the request of ornithologists they tried to determine the reasons for the death of a person whose remains were found in a peat bog. Even though he died 2,500 years ago, the experts succeeded in determining the cause of his death. It was murder, ornithologists confirmed that it was ritual murder.

VIEWPOINT

Igor DANILIN



Trap for Pakistan

It has been announced in Islamabad that the 6th five-year economic development plan begun some year and a half ago has been terminated and replaced by a three-year plan. In the new economic programme the goals are reduced by ten to fifteen per cent.

The Pakistani press considers this as a failure of the ambitious plans of the present military regime. Specifically, the newspaper "Muslim" believes that this is a logical consequence for a country which spends two-thirds of its budget on military build-up and payment of debts, with the rest going into the upkeep of the repressive apparatus. In fact, at present the country's foreign debt is more than 10 billion dollars, or 122 dollars per every Pakistani.

Such is the situation in Pakistan. But only four years ago, when an American-Pakistani military-economic deal worth 3.2 billion dollars was concluded, the Islamabad regime assured the people that American billions would become the "life-blood" of the nation's economy.

The past three years proved these were mere words. Pakistan is still at the bottom of the UN list of the world's most backward states. Enormous amounts—received from the USA—are spent on arming the Pakistani army and equipping it with the latest weapons, including F-16 fighter-bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons. Washington is interested only in the militarization of Pakistan. The rest does not matter.

In November President Reagan received the Pakistani foreign minister Yakub Khan in Washington. However, their talks did not deal with the question as to how Pakistan should walk out of its economic dead-end. They talked about new military deliveries to Islamabad. This was further confirmed by the recent visit to Islamabad by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General J. Vessey.

Washington's emissaries are frequent guests in the Pakistani capital. Recently a delegation of the US Congress was there. It reassured the military regime that the White House sees relations with Pakistan as a corner-

stone of US foreign policy in the region.

Events of the three years since the conclusion of the deal between Washington and Islamabad irrefutably prove that Pakistan has been turned into a bridgehead for joint Pentagon and CIA operations against Afghanistan, India and countries of the Indian Ocean basin, the policies of which do now satisfy the interests of US imperial strategy.

There are now nearly a hundred military camps in Pakistan. There are 300 American specialists and other foreign instructors training counter-revolutionaries in terrorist activities. They are then equipped with American weapons and dispatched into Afghanistan. It is not a matter of separate bandit raids, but a large-scale war against sovereign state (Afghanistan) on which the White House has already spent over a billion dollars.

The regime in Islamabad also serves as a tool of American pressure on another neighbour

— India, which now leads the earliest turning of the Caribbean into a zone of peace and urged all advocates of this idea to step up their struggle against the aggressive militarist line of American imperialism and its interference in the affairs of the region.

Finally, the Pentagon sees Pakistan as a stronghold for its "rapid deployment force" aimed at suppressing any anti-American manifestations in the region. The idea of moving CENTCOM—military command of the "rapid deployment force"—to Karachi is being discussed. American ships stationed in the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Persia now have access to Pakistani ports.

Thus, for the people of Pakistan, American "aid" has brought not just "cannon instead of rice", but also a dangerous hostile attitude towards other nations. The policy of Islamabad rulers has pro-American rather than a national character. This is exactly what was hoped for by Washington strategists three years ago when they set Pakistan a trap with a dollar bait.

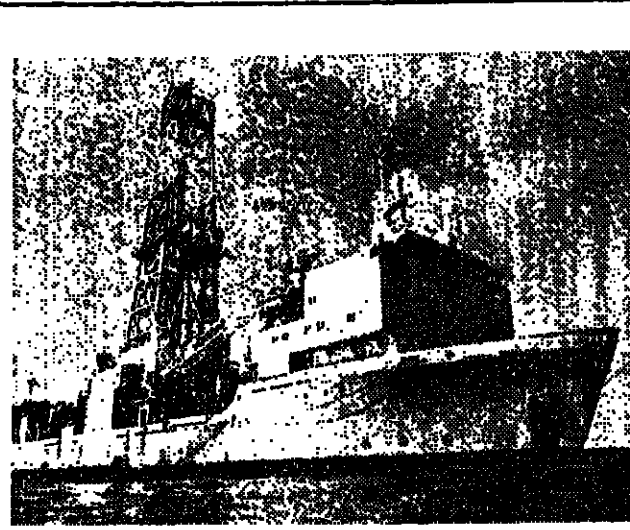
Round the Soviet Union

AN ALL-UNION SYMPOSIUM ON AUTOMATED ROBOTIC COMPLEXES FOR ASSEMBLING AGRICULTURAL GOODS AND EQUIPMENT WAS RECENTLY ORGANIZED IN TASHKENT, THE UZBEK CAPITAL. Apart from Soviet specialists, it was attended by representatives from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Rumania and Czechoslovakia.

INSTANT EVALUATION OF THE QUALITY OF AIR IN A MINE IS NOW POSSIBLE THANKS TO PHOTO-ELECTRIC DIGITAL DUST METERS DESIGNED IN THE UKRAINE. They have eliminated the need for daily analyses of the air sample which took much time to get from the depths of mines. The dust meter which has been successfully tested in mines will find application in many other industries where control of the state of the environment is essential.

ITS ORIGINAL APPEARANCE HAS BEEN RESTORED TO THE REMARKABLE MONUMENT OF THE RUSSIAN CULTURE—THE RIMSKY-KORSAKOV HOUSE-MUSEUM IN THE TOWN OF TIKHVIN (LENINGRAD REGION) WHERE THE GREAT COMPOSER LIVED AS A CHILD. Restorers spent almost five years working on this memorial with exhibits numbering nearly ten thousand items connected with the name of the great musician and his epoch.

A NEW BREED OF SHEEP, ARAGATS, IS CROWNING SUCCESS OF MANY YEARS OF WORK BY ARMENIAN ANIMAL BREEDERS. In quality the Aragats surpasses other Soviet sheep bred for meat and wool. It gives up to 3.5 kilograms of long-nap fleece and is well adapted to mountainous areas and cold weather.



The drilling ship "Valentin Shashin" has been operating for nearly 4 years on the shelf of the Barents Sea (upper picture). Built at the shipyards of the Finnish firm Rauma Repola. It helps do prospective drilling to determine commercial reserves of oil and gas on the shelf of the Arctic Sea.

The main distinguishing feature of this ship is that it is fitted with numerous sophisticated machines, apparatuses and instruments. Suffice it to enter the premises of the service whose task is to keep the ship in the drilling area by means of computer and special devices, to become convinced that it abounds in electronics. The same can be said of the drilling rig and the deep-water diving complex.

Naturally, these sophisticated mechanisms can operate satisfactorily only by skilful people. Suffice it to say that out of the crew of 115 two-thirds have higher and secondary technical education. Even most specialists, engaged in subsidiary work, have secondary or technical secondary education plus service record. Age qualification has also been established: people above the age of 23 may work on the drilling ship. With such a crew, says Viktor Kozlov, captain-director of "Valentin Shashin", it is easier to work because people grasp much quickly and easily the science of sea drilling in severe Arctic conditions.

For the Soviet Union it is a new field of work. Thirty drilling foremen and their assistants work on the ship during each trip (people work by the watch method, i.e., 15 days in the sea, 15 days of rest on the shore). Drilling process is continuous. It stops only when the wind force is 23 mps. The cabin on the drilling rig is a model of comfort and technical equipment (see picture). Surrounded with panels, indicators, telephones and monitors, the working place differs little from that of an engineer at any highly mechanized enterprise.



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Valery MITENEV

SHELF MINERAL RESOURCES OF THE ARCTIC

'Baby' hydroelectric station among giants

The Yenisei River in Siberia was recently dammed on the site of the future Main Hydroelectric Power Station. Compared with the Sayano-Shushenskaya station (design capacity—6.4 million kilowatts) which is being built 20 km upstream, the Main station (320,000 kW) is rather minor.

This station, though part of the power cascade, is not purely to generate electricity but to facilitate maximum power generation at the Sayano-Shushenskaya Hydroelectric Station. The Main station plays a counter-regulating role.

According to experts, the fluctuation of the water level, when turning on and switching off the world's biggest generating unit of the Sayano-Shushenskaya station, will reach six metres. This will impede river transportation and may cause harm to coastal areas. The reservoir of the Main station will eliminate such fluctuations. Unlike the Sayano-Shushenskaya station, it will have a constant operation regime, rationally consuming accumulated water.

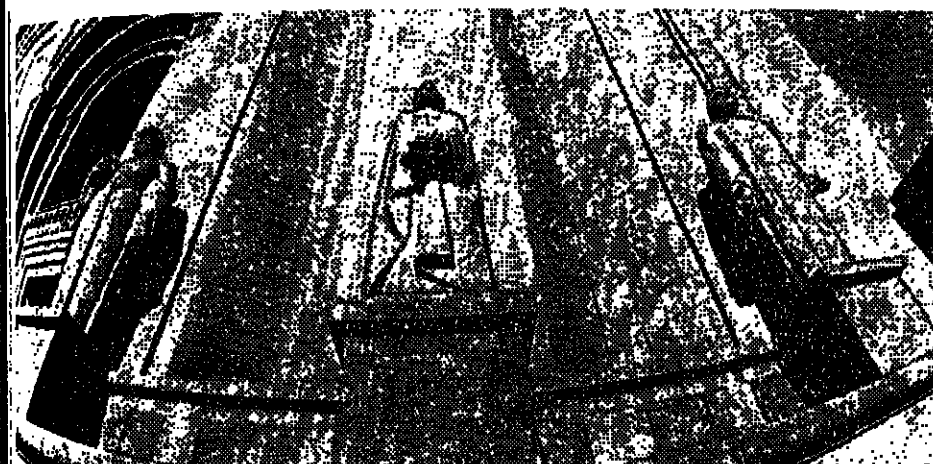
Turkmenia's cotton

Nearly one-third of the cotton grown in Turkmenia (Central Asia) comes from the Tashauz oases in the north of the republic. The harvests here are the highest. This season, for instance, Turkmenia picked more than 1,200,000 tonnes.

Planned irrigation of the Tashauz Desert began in the first years of Soviet power. Today there are six well-developed irrigation networks there.

In the current five-year development plan (1981-85) another canal will feed water to the locality. The area under irrigation will almost double.

Places to visit



MALENADARAN

Books thought to be lost were returned recently to Malenadaran, the main depository of Armenian manuscripts in Yerevan, capital of Soviet Armenia. The oldest of them, "The Gospel", dated about for 800 years, and the latest — "Comprehensive Latin-Armenian Dictionary" — is nearly 200 years. The ancient volumes made City last stretch of journey to Yerevan by air to Musk.

How did these 25 books and 27 manuscripts, dated long ago, get to the Byelorussian capital?

Science and technology

SWIMMING

AGE OF ICE

A probe developed by experts at Leningrad Mining Institute makes it possible to accurately determine the age of ice without extracting the ice from the borehole.

A special unit on the drilling ship to collect the thickest layer of carbon dioxide in the layers of the glacier. Layers of glaciers accumulate information about the past information about the layers of the glacier. The layers of the glacier are preserved, it is kept in the form of air bubbles, and cosmic particles on the plate of volcanic eruption long before the age of man, spores and plants and animals. Each metre into the layers of the Antarctic ice is a new page in the history of life on the planet. The age of ice was estimated by a thorough analysis of each millimetre of the ice core. But the results obtained were rather tentative. More accurate data are obtained from the analysis of carbon isotopes from ice layers.

the authors of this work. The hemisphere which is awake ensures the mobility necessary for the dolphin's breathing.

Dolphins, it turns out, do not dream. Paradoxically it was discovered that, unlike other higher animals and man, they do not have the two phases of sleep — the slow and the rapid — in which dreams occur, but only the primary one. This is an important discovery since previously it was believed that a dream is a compulsory state of the brain and the nervous system — a vital requirement of the organism. The dolphins have refuted all this.

SECRET OF DOLPHINS' SLEEP

At the USSR State Committee for Inventions and Discoveries diplomas were recently awarded to some Soviet physiologists for unravelling the mystery behind the sleep of dolphins. The recipients, staff members of the Institute of the Evolutionary Morphology and Animal Ecology (USSR Academy of Sciences) discovered that the two hemispheres in the brain of the dolphin do not sleep at the same time, but one after another.

When one hemisphere of the animal's brain is asleep the other is active, and then they change roles, says Doctor of Biology Alexander Supin, one of

INDIAN SCHOLAR IN MOSCOW

Tharevali Sankaran Kutty, Associate Professor of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, has arrived in Moscow to work at the Paleontological Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

For me this visit is of great importance and interest, he told MNI. The development of Soviet paleontology (the study of fossil animals and plants) is far advanced. The factual material available in the USSR is unique and I am very glad of the opportunity to study it here.

This is my first visit to Moscow and I like the city very much. The difficulty lies in choosing where to go and what to see in the first place.

More schoolchildren to attend extended classes

A recent session of the USSR Supreme Soviet has adopted a law on the state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR in 1985. Among the twenty main indices in the plan envisaging the rate of growth, one reads: The number of schoolchildren in schools and extended classes. Under the heading these are to increase by three per cent, which means that in the next school year, the number of schoolchildren attending extended classes will reach 13.3 million.

First and foremost, the advantages of such classes are obvious for families in which the grown-ups are at work on weekdays. Children attending the classes are taken care of by teachers. There, they have their lunch, rest, take lessons, and spend their spare time usefully by participating in various activities.

This is also of advantage to the state, since extended classes afford mothers (especially those with children in junior school) the opportunity to dedicate more time to their work.

Also of importance is the teaching of children in extended classes which makes teachers see their pupils, talk to them, and help them develop their interests and abilities.

Soviet schoolchildren are maintained in the classes free of charge. Parents only pay for some of money for their lunches. In many cases, the expenditure is taken over by industries, the state or collective farms.

VIEWPOINT

USSR Food Programme: tangible results already

Lev VOSKRESENSKY

Here is some statistics. Annual milk production went up by 7.4 million tonnes, meat by 1.4 million tonnes, and eggs by 4,000 million pieces. Compare it with the annual average for 1976-80 (milk 92.1; meat 15.5; eggs 72,700) and you will see that the increment is rather significant. However, the main thing is that the growth rates for these commodities are much higher than those for the population.

Fruit and vegetable yields have also gone up. On the whole, the two years after the Food Programme produced more agricultural products than the two years before the Programme by 20,000 million rubles. It sounds rather promising in absolute terms, too, 1983 and 1984 were the most agriculturally productive in the country's history.

These and other figures enabled the Central Committee of the CPSU to declare at its October 1984 Plenary Meeting that the level of consumption of most valuable foodstuffs had increased and the food basket of the Soviet people became better, which is just what the Food Programme is after.

Will the positive trend in the USSR agroindustrial complex continue? Will the Soviet economy be able to go as fast and, moreover, to ensure more dynamism for itself?

The first years of the Food Programme have seen the success of the principle of economic self-sufficiency and advantage combined with material encouragement which produced good results even in bad years in agriculture. One more strong point of the Food Programme is the transition from predominantly administrative to economically motivated decision-making.

One more thing which deserves being mentioned is the collective contract. Unlike the so-called rate payment when earnings depend only on the volume of work done (the remuneration in many ways the situation in industry), the contract makes payment a function of the quantity and quality of the goods produced. Units which work on the collective contract basis typically have a 20-25 per cent higher productivity and produce 10 to 20 and sometimes 30 per cent more at costs 10-15 per cent lower.

In 1984, more than half of the farmland in the country, including 39 per cent of potatoes and 23 per cent of vegetables, is tied to the collective contract basis. This fact was also conducive to ironing out the losses incurred by bad weather.

Many hopes are now placed on the collective contract in agriculture.

Underwater core sampler

A special drilling installation was designed at the Leningrad Mining Institute for underwater core sampling. Hoisted on a cable the sampler can drill a borehole up to 30 metres deep and deliver the sample on board ship.

Any ship more than 500 tonnes can use the sampler which reduces human involvement to minimum. The new device is capable of drilling any rock down to the solid rock at depths of up to 200 metres and, in future, down to several kilometres. A drill string set and replaceable core samplers are provided.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

MINI POPULATION CENSUS

A selective social-demographic investigation of the Soviet population will be conducted from January 2 to 11. What is the aim of the minicensus? This point is dealt with in PRAVDA by Lev Volodarsky, Chief of the USSR Central Statistical Board.

Sociological and other investigations of various aspects of society's life are being regularly carried out in the country, notes the author. But they are often local in character. Exhaustive and accurate information about the number and composition of the population is provided by the USSR censuses. They are held approximately once in ten years. The results of the latest census of 1979 were widely used in drawing up the State Plan for the economic and social development of the USSR for the 11th Five-Year Plan period.

Now and fresh information about the population assumes an increasing importance today. It helps carry out the programmes aimed at improving the population's living standards and pursuing an effective demographic policy.

The forthcoming study is the first in its scope, stresses the author. It will be held throughout the country's territory, except the districts of the Extreme North and other almost inaccessible places as, for example, the remote settlements of the Pamirs, Tien Shan, with which communication becomes difficult in January.

The materials of the January investigation will provide detailed information about the composition of the population, its educational level, distribution of social groups throughout the Soviet territory and so on. The situation will become clear in terms of the labour resources of society, incomes of the population, birth rate and other factors.

All these data are needed by the state management and planning bodies, research institutions and will help solve many practical problems.

GAMMA-RAYS INCREASE HARVEST

At the Vyveral scientific-production association in Moldavia a gamma-ray source irradiates millions of grape vines a year. Thanks to this, vineyards yield bigger harvests while labour productivity of people engaged in grafting has grown 25 times. Also in Uzbekistan researchers have designed and put into operation an experimental plant which irradiates trays with eggs in incubators.

cubators. Irradiation stimulation yields additionally thousands of chickens. Grain is cleared of pests at the elevator of Odessa port with the help of ionizing irradiation.

Radiation biotechnology is being increasingly used in the national economy. In an article published in IZVESTIA Prof. Alexandra Kudryashova writes about the opportunities it affords today.

Small doses of gamma-irradiation, notes the author, stimulate in seeds a fuller manifestation of their genetic programme. As a result, the yield of grain and leguminous crops increases by 10-20 per cent and vegetables by almost a third. Gamma-rays are also used in speeding up the ripening of radish and cabbage.

As is generally known, impact of the rays on the genetic apparatus of a cell may cause mutation — deviation from material sample. The mutants which are most useful to man are selected. Thus, Soviet scientists developed a new wheat variety — Novosibirskaya-67. Oats, barley, varieties of beans, soybeans, buckwheat and dwarf apple trees, Georgia has developed new tea varieties — more aromatic and utterly different from other brands. Other countries willingly buy this tea.

'YOUTH ELIXIR' MAY BE FOUND?

In the hoary past such great minds as Hippocrates and Aristotle both wrecked their brains over recipes to make the human body younger, yet only the latest achievements in medicine, biology, and other contiguous disciplines have given us the possibility of studying this problem in detail. The Institute of Gerontology established in this country twenty-five years ago, is carrying out complex studies into the biological, physiological and medical aspects of ageing, as well as the broad range of social research involved. writes the newspaper SOVIETSKAYA KULTURA. Besides, these problems are studied in more than 120 scientific research and medical institutes. All these efforts are coordinated by the scientific council on gerontology and geriatrics of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences. A complex scientific programme, "Prolongation of Life", has been worked out with the task of determining the main mechanisms of ageing, clarification of the appearance of pathological processes in the human body and searching for ways of increasing median life-span.

In this case, it is a matter of prolonging the lifespan of a species, the newspaper notes.

It has been calculated that even man's final victory over his main enemies — cold-virus and cancer —

diseases and various injuries — will add only ten to twelve years to his life-span. Is this satisfactory? That is why research is being conducted into the possibility of increasing the years of man as a biological species.

Scientists of all times have attempted to develop "youth elixir". These attempts continue — and not unsuccessfully. A number of geriatric medicines which contain the process of ageing of cells have been developed by staff members of the Institute of Gerontology. There are also interesting achievements by the Institute of Chemical Physics and at the Institute of Biophysics at the USSR Academy of Sciences.

EVACUATING ANCIENT SANCTUARY

Exports in Tuva (an autonomous republic in Siberia bordering Mongolia) and researchers of the Institute of Archaeology of the USSR Academy of Sciences have carried out a unique operation — evacuation of stone blocks with drawings by ancient artists from the site of the Sayano-Shushenskaya Hydroelectric Power Station reservoir. This report was published in the newspaper SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA.

These strange carvings on boulders and rocks, stretching like mountain ranges along the left bank of the Yenisei River, were discovered in 1950 by the main body of geological expedition which was looking for a place to build the Sayano-Shushenskaya Hydroelectric Power Station. Thus the ancient sanctuary — was the site of the old city of Mugur-Sargol — was discovered. On its stone steps there were numerous petroglyphs by means of which the artists of antiquity conveyed their ideas about the world. Among the petroglyphs of Mugur-Sargol there were about 800 masks and nearly 9,000 signs in the forms of circles, holes, depressions and spheres with dots in the centre. Probably, it was in such a way that ancient artists depicted the Sun, stars and constellations.

The aim of investigations carried out by experts was first to make various life-size copies of petroglyphs, taking their pictures with photo and cine-camera on their original site before the flooding of Mugur-Sargol. However, since then the development of technology has made a great headway and it was decided to evacuate the most valuable archaeological samples of rock paintings.

Today, it has become possible to move out and set up for evacuation 50 stone samples weighing up to eight tonnes. A special road was laid in the mountains to transport the petroglyphs.

Archaeological investigations and work on the evacuation of some petroglyphs will continue in 1985.

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